

CITY OF BOULDER  
BOULDER, COLORADO  
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING MINUTES

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<b>Name of Board/Commission:</b> Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
<b>Date of Meeting:</b> October 27, 2014
<b>Contact Information Preparing Summary:</b> Sally Dieterich 303-413-7242
<b>Board Members Present:</b> Mike Conroy, Myriah Conroy, Kelly Wyatt, Michelle Estrella, Mike Guzek, Marty Gorce, Tom Klenow <b>Board Members Absent:</b> None
<b>Staff Present:</b> Jeff Dillon, Yvette Bowden, Sally Dieterich, Jeff Haley, Lisa Martin, Alison Rhodes, Teri Olander, Dean Rummel, Stacy Cole, Andrew MacLean
<b>Guests Present:</b> None
<b>Type of Meeting:</b> Advisory/Regular
<b>Agenda Item 1: Call to Order</b> The meeting was called to order at 6:02p.m. and the agenda was approved. Chair Conroy requested agenda item 8 (Matters from Board Members) be moved to agenda 3 (Public Participation) to permit discussion related to the Kinesis Dance Program.
<b>Agenda Item 2: Future Board Items and Tours</b> Future items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1/2015 – Civic Area meeting for boards/commissions</li><li>• 10/28 Council study session – flood recovery update</li><li>• Spring 2015 – Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) update with strategic plan</li><li>• Asset Management software selected – planning recommendation to IT with pilot program</li><li>• 11/24 PRAB meeting date</li></ul> PRAB agreed to have the next business meeting on 11/24, as scheduled.
<b>Agenda Item 3: Public Participation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mark Willuhn, resident, gave kudos to staff for the great job building Elks Park, but shared some noise level and traffic concerns.</li><li>• Emily Brake, resident, expressed concerns with the dance program change from a public to private program.</li><li>• Julie Leonard, non-resident, expressed disappointment with dance program changes and the release of instructor Ross. She asked staff to investigate.</li><li>• Kathy Karr, resident, asked why the dance program was not put out to public bid and instead given to city employees. She also expressed her disappointment with the end of instructor Ross' employment after twenty-five years with the City.</li><li>• Lee Troop, resident, executive director of the Boulder Track Club, asked staff to include a running track in the Valmont City Park planning process.</li></ul> <b>Board discussion and comments regarding the dance program included:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conroy (Mike) inquired why the dance program was outsourced and why former City of Boulder employees were awarded a three year contract.</li><li>• Conroy (Myriah) asked why this was handled so differently from the Pottery Lab privatization.</li><li>• Wyatt felt this was similar to the tennis program, but PRAB needs to be involved in the process because PRAB is integral in public/partnership exploration.</li><li>• Conroy (Myriah) stated a belief that the program was profitable prior to these two city employees being awarded the dance contract.</li></ul>

- Conroy (Mike) thanked staff for responding to some questions, but was confused by the city outsourcing to former city employees, making them contractors with a three year contract. It would have been helpful for PRAB to be involved.
- Guzek noted how passionate some of the groups are and reminded staff that if it is not done appropriately it will be noticed.
- Estrella added that she supports the department encouraging public/private partnerships, but that it needs to be done transparently.
- Conroy (Mike) asked if there is a meeting schedule with the dance group between now and the November PRAB meeting.

Dillon described that moving from highly specialized programs, such as dance, pottery, or gymnastics, must be handled sensitively. The city ran a successful program for seven years but that financial sustainability and service reach continued to be issues. Staff felt that then-existing staff had the skills to continue the program under a partnership model and that their familiarity with the program would aid in the transition pilot period. This will be a discussion item at the November PRAB meeting.

Bowden said that a meeting with the dance group will be held on November 5 at 5 p.m. at the West Senior Center and invited members of PRAB to attend.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Consent Agenda**

##### **A. Approval of minutes from September 22, 2014**

Minutes from September 22, 2014 were approved as written.

##### **B. Park Development Update**

Written updates were provided to the board as part of the packet materials. These are items that require no board action or discussion.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Items for Action**

There were No Items for Action.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Items for Discussion/Information**

**A. Valmont City Park Update:** The department is currently updating the 2008 Valmont City Park (VCP) concept plan to reflect the needs of the community. This process includes:

- Community Survey
- Industry trend analysis
- Athletic field study
- Stakeholder meetings
- Outreach sessions with youth groups
- Community meetings
- Updates to PRAB and council

Feedback has provided the following:

- VCP should provide active recreation opportunities
- Focus on youth activities
- Include disc golf, athletic fields, running
- Provide multi-use recreation facilities

Next steps:

- Work with consultants to complete the athletic field report
- Develop series of concepts that integrate all data and feedback to determine a final draft concept plan
- Draft final concept plan will be presented at a community meeting in December 2014
- Final concept plan public hearing to be presented to PRAB in February 2015

**B. Department and PRAB Action Plan:** Four specific areas were identified and reflect the planning process during the next eighteen months:

- Increasing internal and external communication
- Expanding youth engagement
- Building partnerships/sponsorships
- Building capacity

**Agenda Item 7: Matters from the Department**

- A. Boulder Rugby Club Agreement:** Under the one year agreement Boulder Rugby will fundraise and conduct capital improvements at Tom Watson Park. In return, Boulder Rugby will receive a designated number of hours for field use.
- B. Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB) Coordination:** One key strategy for action items in engaging and working with youth. Three students from YOAB have been selected for a public engagement pilot program to develop a youth engagement plan between October 2014 and January 2015. They will be working to develop effective strategies for engaging youth as part of park development. They will come before PRAB in January 2015.
- C. Electric Assist Bike Status:** The transportation department electric bike assist pilot program was successful, with no major issues noted.
- D. Aquatics Feasibility Plan:** The contract has been signed and the aquatics feasibility plan is underway. Stakeholders, partners, user groups, and the community will be invited to be part of the process. Staff is requesting one or two PRAB members to be liaisons for the projects. The feasibility plan will be on the November 24 PRAB meeting agenda as a discussion item.

**Agenda Item 8: Matters from Board Members**

This item was moved to agenda item 3.

**Next Board Meeting: November 24, 2014**

**Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the board at this time; the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved by:

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Mike Conroy  
Board Chair

Attested:

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Sally Dietrich  
Board Secretary